3) The Secretary, Deptt. Of Environment, all States and UTs.

4) The Secretary, Department of Finance, all States and UTs.

5) The Accountant Generals, all States and UTs.

6) The Member Secretary, all State Pollution Control Boards/Committees of UTs.

7) Director of Audit, CW & Misc. - IP Estate, New Delhi.

8) Deputy Secretary, IFD/Account Officer, B&A, MoEF.

9) Guard File/Spare Copies.

Implementation of 15 Point Programme

*452. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the 15 Point Programme, especially for the agency areas of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the present status thereof, State-wise, especially the projects relating to tribal women in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) An important aim of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities is to ensure that the benefits of various government schemes for the underprivileged reach the disadvantaged sections of the minority communities in the country, and would include tribals and women belonging to the minority communities. It also provides that, wherever possible, 15% of targets and outlays under various schemes should be earmarked for minorities. The new programme envisages location of a certain proportion of development projects in minority concentration areas.

The status of implementation of the schemes in the country, including Andhra Pradesh, under the programme for 2008-09 is available in the Ministry's website on www.minorityaffairs.gov.in

Demands of hydro power developers

*453. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State-run utilities along with private sector players, in a bid to exploit 1,50,000 MW hydro potential of the country, have unanimously demanded immediate steps to simplify land acquisitions and securing of environmental and forest clearances;

(b) if so, whether the developers have stated that land acquisition is an area of concern which requires to be addressed by the State Governments;

(c) whether developers have also pointed out basic infrastructural facilities like road connectivity, communication, etc. need to be provided by Government to attract investment and expeditious implementation of the hydro power projects; and